The Maulana Azad Education Foundation was set up for the purpose of promotion of educational activities among educationally backward sections of the society particularly the minorities.

The Ministry of HRD Deptt. of Education has been implementing three separate schemes for the educational development of minorities in the minority concentration districts under the Programme of Action prepared in pursuance of National Policy on Education. The schemes are Area Intensive Programme, Modernisation of Madarsa Education and Community Polytechnics. The University Grants Commission is implementing a coaching scheme for minority candidates through the various Universities and Colleges. Under the UGC Coaching scheme candidates are provided free stipendary coaching.

(b) No other special incentives to Minorities other than the schemes and programmes at (a) are under the consideration of the Govt, at present.

(c) Does not arise.

Steel plants in private and public sectors

536. SHRI BHAGABAN MAJHI: Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

(a) the number of steel plants set up by the private and public sectors at different places in the country;

(b) whether it is a fact that the steel plants whether in private or public sector are not taking any interest in the development of ancillary units; and

(c) if so, the steps taken by Government for making all the steel plants mandatory to develop the ancillary units?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV): (a) There are 6 integrated steel plans in the public sector and 1 in the private sector.

(b) No, Sir.

(p) Does not arise in view of (b).

Establishment of pig iron plants in Orissa

537. SHRI RAHASBIHARI BARIK: Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a vast scope for the establishment of pig iron plants in Orissa;

(b) if so, the number of pig iron plants proposed to be set up in that State;

(c) the places identified for the location of pig iron plants in that State; and

(d) the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV): (a) The scope for pig iron plants in Orissa would depend on a large number of factors viz. availability and price of required grade of raw-materials, infrastructural facilities, availability and cost of financing, cost competitiveness of the product, market conditions etc. Investment would depend upon an appraisal of above factors by interested entrepreneurs and their commercial judgements.

(b) to (d) According to information made available by the State Govt, of